

# JAPAN CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY NEWS

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*Published by the Commission on Public Relations  
of the National Christian Council of Japan*

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CABLE CODE: JAPACONCIL, ADDRESS: CHRISTIAN CENTER, 24-CHOME GINZA, TOKYO, JAPAN

Subscription Rates: Japan ¥700; Foreign (Sea mail) \$2.00; (Air mail) \$3.50.

No. 188

June 1, 1961

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## KOREAN-JAPANESE CHRISTIAN STUDENT RELATIONS

The six Japanese "Y" representatives which visited Korea in March of this year at the invitation of the National "Y" Student Committee chairman of Korea, report the thrill of having been invited to more homes than were actually needed to house them. The Japanese representatives had been instructed to reciprocate by inviting four students from Korea for a visit to Japan this summer. They invited seven. Therefore, from mid-July to mid-August, six Korean students and one college professor will be taking part in work camps, regional conferences of student YM and YW and will participate in a three day Young People's Conference of the Korean Church in Japan. The whole team will come together at the National Summer Conference of the Japanese YM and YW.

Also, to extend the hand of Christian Fellowship and love to Korean students living and studying in Japan, leaders of youth work in the Korean Church in Japan, Japanese YM and YW secretaries and Korean businessmen associated with "Y" work in Japan have been holding small round-table discussions. The most recent discussions have centered on the possibility of an integrated program of the Japanese and Korean "Ys". It has also been decided to recognized these informal talks as a "commission" which shall







attempt to serve as a feeder to the Korean and Japanese "Ys" when there are any problems and to stimulate meetings of Koreans studying at Japanese colleges with Japanese Christian students.

There are at present 3,840 foreign students studying in Japanese universities, colleges and jr. colleges. Of these, 2,415 are Korean. Besides facing many problems concerning foreign registration, rooms, school fees, living expenses and employment, they are divided ideologically. Except for a few who are active in "Y" activities, almost none of these students have any relation to Christian activities.

Some interpret these activities in which the young Christian people of Japan have become involved as marking a break in the tradition of the young people's movement in Japan which has been basically Bible study only, to a thinking about and applying what it means to be a Christian student in society and a Christian student in the university. It is probably necessary to note that at the twelfth annual NCC Youth Leader's Conference held this spring, one of the six resolutions drawn up on the final day of the conference called for "more individual Bible reading and opportunity for group Bible study."

#### JAPANESE NURSES TO NAPAL

Sailing on a freighter from Yokohama on June 3 will be Miss Junko Kawashima (25) and Miss Yoshiko Ueda (26), nurses on their way to Nepal to serve as medical missionaries. They are assigned to a mission hospital in Nepal with Dr. Noboru Iwamura, assistant professor at Tottori U. and his family. Dr. Iwamura has had to postpone his departure for half a year, therefore, the two nurses will precede him and wait for him and his family in India, meanwhile serving a Christian hospital there. There are several Japanese missionaries, and doctors with their families serving in Southeast Asia already, but this will be the first time for a single woman to go in such a capacity.

Miss Kawashima comes from Aomori prefecture and is a member of the Anglican-Episcopal Church in Japan. Graduating from the Tokyo U. nurses training school in 1957 she has worked at the University hospital since the time. She has been an active member of the Christian Medical Association of Japan since her student days. An article in the July, 1959 issue of the periodical "Medicine and the Gospel", telling of the need of Dr. Fredericks, a missionary doctor serving in Nepal, for more help, caught her attention and she applied at once.

Miss Ueda comes from Tokushima prefecture and is a member of the Kamoshima Brethern Church of Christ in Japan. Soon after being baptized, she decided to serve the poor as a nurse. She worked at the Osaka U. Psychiatry Department, and after graduation from the Osaka U. nurses training school worked at the Kyoto Baptist Hospital. Influenced by Rev. Takemitsu Ogawa of the Kamimizo church in Kanagawa prefecture who was doing medical work in that area, Miss Ueda entered the Rural Evangelism Theological







Seminary to prepare herself for work with infants in rural areas. However, while at the Seminary she became a close friend to the students from Southeast Asia studying there and felt led by God to serve in Nepal.

### AVACO NEWS: Plans Television Studio

The Audio-Visual Activities Commission contemplates the construction of a television studio and launching an entirely new program in this area at a possible total cost of a million dollars. The vision which AVACO has of adding the preparation of television programs to its activities follows from recognition of the tremendous influence which this medium has in the minds and lives of the people, from a wish that Christian evangelism may take advantage of the possibilities of television for reaching untold numbers of people with a full audio-visual impact, and from the realization that it must sooner or later provide this service to meet the need of the churches.

The proposed studio will not include broadcasting facilities. It is to be a studio for the production of programs, video-tapes and elements of programs to be broadcast by television companies. While the production of programs to be done in the new studio will adhere to the principles of sound evangelistic policy and practice, at the same time as it will maintain a standard of technical excellence, programs to be prepared will not be, "strictly speaking," AVACO programs, but will be prepared by AVACO for the co-operating church and other Christian groups.

It is anticipated that most of the denominational and other Christian bodies in Japan will endorse this project and seek to cooperate with it for the sake of greatly enhancing their evangelistic work among the Japanese people. A committee has been formed, under the Board of AVACO, to make a thorough study of the problems involved in establishing a studio, to begin "hearings" through which interested groups may make known their wishes and suggestions. The committee is composed of members of the AVACO Board and Staff. It has met once to review the various aspects of the task before it, including at this time principally matters of promotion, survey and preliminary study.

A capital funds campaign will be conducted to raise the funds for establishing the studio which it is hoped may be located near the present Center for Audio-Visual Activities on Aoyama Gakuin campus. The studio will be maintained, once in operation, by income from rental to television companies and other groups that may choose to have programs produced there.

### JAPAN COUNCIL OF EVANGELICAL MISSIONS ORGANIZED

On May 15 and 16 the first organizational meeting of the Japan Council of Evangelical Missions (JCEM) met to elect officers and to adopt a program of work called for by the Constitution which had been amended and approved in October, 1960. About 40 official representatives from various missions were present.







Dave Hesselgrave of the Evangelical Free Church Mission was elected chairman, Frank Cole of the Japan Conservative Baptist Mission-asst. chairman, Robert Gerry of the Christian Literature Crusade-treasurer and Hubert Helling of the Church of the Nazarene-secretary, to form the executive committee. The five following committees were also organized: Inter-organizational Cooperation, Disaster Relief and Social Service, Christian Education, Bible Translation, and Legal Affairs. The Bible Translation committee was set up to cooperate with groups working on new Japanese translations of the Bible. The committee on Legal Affairs is a general committee to make representations to the Japanese government concerning such matters as income tax.

The movement for such an organization originated among missionaries associated with the Evangelical Missionary Association of Japan (EMAJ) who desired an organ which would facilitate collective action on matters of liaison, representation, and cooperative action. An interim committee, which did the spadework, with the initial approval of 20 mission groups and later 37 mission groups, was composed of William Eckel of the Church of the Nazarene, Paul McGarvey of the Christian Missionary Allian, Dave Hesselgrave of the Evangelical Free Church Mission, Folke Person of the Swedish Evangelical Missions, Don Walter of The Evangelical Alliance Mission and Hubert Helling of the Church of the Nazarene.

Hubert Helling, elected secretary of the new council, emphasizes that the organization is not aiming at becoming a group which will put its stamp of approval on matters.



